

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

These amendments introduce no new matter and support for the amendment is replete throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter, or agreement with any objection or rejection of record.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of screening a nuclear transcription factor ligand for the ability to modulate estrogen activation at an AP-1 site, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a first cell comprising:

an estrogen receptor;

~~a cognate receptor for said nuclear transcription factor ligand, wherein said cognate receptor is a receptor other than the estrogen receptor, AP-1, fos or jun;~~

fos;

jun; ~~and,~~

an additional member of the nuclear transcription factor superfamily, which member of the nuclear transcription factor superfamily comprises a cognate receptor for said nuclear transcription factor ligand; and,

a promoter comprising an AP-1 site that regulates expression of a first reporter gene;

b) contacting said first cell with said transcription factor ligand and with a compound having AP-1 mediated estrogenic activity; and,

c) detecting expression of said first reporter gene, as compared to expression of said first reporter gene in the absence of said transcription factor ligand, wherein a difference in expression of said first reporter gene in the presence and absence of said transcription factor ligand indicates that said nuclear transcription factor ligand modulates estrogen activation at an AP-1 site.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

d) providing a second cell comprising an estrogen receptor, a cognate receptor for said nuclear transcription factor ligand, and a promoter comprising an estrogen response element (ERE) that regulates expression of a second reporter gene;

e) contacting said second cell with said transcription factor ligand and with said compound having AP-1 mediated estrogenic activity; and,

f) detecting expression of said second reporter gene.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said first cell and the cell containing the estrogen response element that regulates expression of a second reporter gene are the same cell.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

d) providing a second cell comprising a cognate receptor of said transcription factor ligand, and a promoter comprising a response element for said cognate receptor that regulates expression of a second reporter gene;

e) contacting said second cell with said transcription factor ligand and with said compound having AP-1 mediated estrogenic activity; and,

f) detecting expression of said second reporter gene.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said first cell and the cell containing a cognate receptor of said transcription factor ligand are the same cell.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said nuclear transcription factor ligand is selected from the group consisting of: a glucocorticoid, a progestin, vitamin D, retinoic acid, an androgen, a mineralcorticoid, and a prostaglandin..

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said cognate receptor is selected from the group consisting of: an estrogen receptor, a glucocorticoid receptor, a

progesterin PR-A receptor, and progesterin PR-B receptor, an androgen receptor, a mineralocorticoid receptor, and a prostaglandin receptor.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first cell expresses said estrogen receptor from a heterologous DNA.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first cell expresses said cognate receptor from a heterologous DNA.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said cell expresses said fos or said jun from a heterologous DNA.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said jun is c-jun.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said nuclear transcription factor ligand is a progesterin; and said cognate receptor is a progesterin receptor.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said nuclear transcription factor ligand is a glucocorticoid and said cognate receptor is a GR receptor.

14. - 28. (Cancelled)